Dr. Sol Spiegelman
Department of Bacteriology
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois

Dear Sol:

We had hoped to leave open the question of whether we could join you at the local get-together, but it was settled for us by a pair of beautiful chest colds that settled on Esther and me in sequence. I am sorry we could not make it this time.

Were you serious about the possibility of lending us yourde Fonbrune micromanipulator for the next six months? If we could borrow yours for that interval, it might save us the necessity of buying another one, and I would appreciate the favor. I hope this letter can be construed as a formal request, if that is what you need for your records.

With best regards to everyone, especially the friends we missed,

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg Professor of Genetics